

MULTIPLE OVERSEAS FACILITIES WORLDWIDE

U.S. Department of State Building Program

Acuity provides current working estimates that enable OBO to make informed contract and purchasing decisions.

The Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations (OBO) directs the worldwide overseas building program for the U.S. Department of State. OBO's mission is to provide safe, secure, and functional facilities that represent the U.S. government to the host nations and support 86,000 government employees in the achievement of U.S. foreign policy objectives.

Since 1999, OBO has completed 106 new diplomatic facilities. Over 25,840 people have been moved out of vulnerable locations into safer, more secure facilities – vastly improving the protection of both employees and sensitive government information. An additional 33 projects are currently in design or under construction.

Acuity provided OBO with cost estimating assistance on site in OBO's office in Rosslyn, VA. Acuity was responsible for calculating estimates for new construction, major rehabilitation, and repairs and improvements to embassies and consulates within Europe and Western Africa, and often traveled to posts to meet with landowners, tenants, architects, and other State Department representatives to assess the needs of existing embassies. In addition to the chancery, embassy compounds may include an office annex, U.S. Marine quarters, warehouse buildings, parking, and recreation facilities.

Acuity also developed a lifecycle cost analysis tool:

OBO faces unique and diverse challenges with each new embassy construction. The cost of managing facilities in different countries fluctuates wildly, and decisions about design, construction, and sourcing of materials are often made without the benefit of shared information between all of the parties involved in the projects.

Acuity developed a comprehensive, yet scalable tool by which parties both in and outside of OBO could build, amend, share, and publish lifecycle costs associated with both new construction and retrofits at international posts.

The lifecycle cost analysis template walks users through a lifecycle cost buildup and coaches them on appropriate cost factors to enable comparison of 50-year lifecycle costs for up to four options. A back-end database populates location-specific cost factors and helps drive the template. Users also have the opportunity to capture additional, non-numeric information, such as project-specific assumptions and information, which can be shared easily between contractors, engineers and OBO personnel.



703.261.1110

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